



National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

Lava Beds  
National Monument

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# Lava Beds National Monument News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Tourism to Lava Beds and the Tule Lake Unit creates about \$6 million in Economic Benefits

*Report shows visitor spending supports 77 jobs in local economy*

TULELAKE, California— A new National Park Service (NPS) report shows that the almost 140,000 visitors to Lava Beds National Monument and the Tule Lake Unit in 2014 spent over \$5 million in communities near the park. That spending supported 77 jobs in the local area and had a cumulative benefit to the local economy of over \$6 million.

“Lava Beds and the Tule Lake Unit welcome visitors from across the country and around the world,” said Superintendent Mike Reynolds. “We are delighted to share the story of these places and the experience they provide. We also see the parks as a way to introduce our visitors to the Tule Lake Basin and all that it has to offer. National park tourism is a significant driver in the national economy, returning \$10 for every \$1 invested in the National Park Service, and it’s a big factor in our local economy as well. We appreciate the partnership and support of our neighbors and are glad to be able to give back by helping to sustain local communities.”

The peer-reviewed visitor spending analysis was conducted by U.S. Geological Survey economists Catherine Cullinane Thomas and Christopher Huber and National Park Service economist Lynne Koontz. The report shows \$15.7 billion of direct spending by 292.8 million park visitors in communities within 60 miles of a national park. This spending supported 277,000 jobs nationally; 235,600 of those jobs are found in these gateway communities. The cumulative benefit to the U.S. economy was \$29.7 billion.

According to the 2014 report, most park visitor spending was for lodging (30.6 percent) followed by food and beverages (20.3 percent), gas and oil (11.9 percent), admissions and fees (10.2 percent) and souvenirs and other expenses (9.9 percent).

To download the report visit <http://www.nature.nps.gov/socialscience/economics.cfm>

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The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.

The report includes information for visitor spending at individual parks and by state.

To learn more about national parks in California or Oregon and how the National Park Service works with these communities to help preserve local history, conserve the environment, and provide outdoor recreation, go to [www.nps.gov/California](http://www.nps.gov/California) or [www.nps.gov/Oregon](http://www.nps.gov/Oregon).

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Lava Beds National Monument, established in 1925, is a land of turmoil, both geologic and historic. Over the last half-million years, volcanic eruptions have created a rugged landscape dotted with diverse volcanic features. Lava tube caves, Native American sites, historic battlefields and a high desert wilderness experience await you!

For more information about visiting Lava Beds National Monument, call 530-667-8113, email [labe\\_interpretation@nps.gov](mailto:labe_interpretation@nps.gov), or go to [www.nps.gov/labe](http://www.nps.gov/labe). Like us on Facebook! Follow us on Twitter!

The Tule Lake Unit of World War II Valor in the Pacific National Monument, established in 2008, is a nationally significant site dedicated to telling the story of the cost of war on the home front and the lasting effects of the unjust incarceration of over 29,000 US citizens and long-term residents of Japanese ancestry at the Tule Lake Segregation Center.

For more information about visiting the Tule Lake Unit of World War II Valor in the Pacific National Monument, call 530-260-0537, email [tule\\_interpretation@nps.gov](mailto:tule_interpretation@nps.gov), or go to [www.nps.gov/tule](http://www.nps.gov/tule). Like us on Facebook! Follow us on Twitter!

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